

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

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THREE NH HIGH SCHOOLS JOIN TRANSPORTATION CAREER PILOT PROGRAM
NHDOT WILL PROMOTE VALUE OF SCIENCE, MATH AND SOCIAL STUDIES
EDUCATION TO STUDENTS IN PEMBROKE, BELMONT AND TILTON

Students in three New Hampshire High Schools will soon be solving real-world problems as part of a hands-on national outreach program designed for use in science, math and social studies classes. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation is piloting the program for the first year with Pembroke Academy in Pembroke, Shaker Regional High School in Belmont, and Winnisquam Regional High School in Tilton.

Sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the TRAC™ (TRansportation and Civil engineering) program promotes the value of science, math and social studies education.

Nationwide, the transportation and civil engineering fields are both experiencing employment shortfalls. By engaging students in solving real-world problems, sending volunteer mentors from the Department of Transportation into the classroom, and supplying teachers with materials and curriculums, TRAC connects high school students to the working world of transportation professionals and civil engineers, and inspires them to consider careers in these fields.

Each participating school receives a TRAC PAC, a self-contained laboratory complete with a computer; software programs for data collection, urban planning, and bridge design; sound and motion detectors; materials to complete activities such as Magnetic Levitation transport; and an activities manual.

Teachers and staff from Pembroke, Shaker Regional and Winnisquam High Schools and New Hampshire Department of Transportation engineers spent February 6 and 7 in a training program at the NHDOT headquarters in Concord with Tate Jackson, AASHTO's TRAC Program Manager, from Washington, DC.

The NHDOT anticipates expanding the program over time to include additional high schools throughout the state.